

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01

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AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L HAVANA 1401

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, PORG, CU

SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE: SAHARA ISSUE

1. SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH MOROCCANS CLAIM THAT THEY ARE ENCOURAGED BY FAILURE OF ALGERIANS TO SECURE SPECIFIC CONDEMNATION OF MOROCCO, MAURITANIA, AND FRANCE, FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING (MAY 15 - 20) OFFERS GESTURES IN DIRECTION OF ALGIERS, NOT RABAT. END SUMMARY.

2. SAHARA ISSUE, ALONG WITH MIDDLE EAST (HAVANA 1386), DOMINATED NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING. ALGERIANS (ACCOMPANIED BY POLISARIO DELEGATION) MOVED EARLY TO STRENGTHEN CUBAN DRAFT'S (HAVANA 1343) CALL FOR: A) APPLICATION OF GA RES 1514 (XV) WHICH ESTABLISHES PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION, AND B) MONITORING OF SITUATION BY UN SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DECOLONIZATION. (COMMENT: CUBAN DRAFT ON SAHARA FOLLOWED LINES OF COLOMBO DECLARATION.)

3. ALGIERS, GOING BEYOND CUBAN DRAFT, INTRODUCED AMENDMENT WHICH CALLED FOR CONDEMNATION OF MOROCCO, MAURITANIA, AND FRANCE BY NAME AND

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WHICH CONDEMNED "ILLEGAL OCCUPATION" OF SAHARA BY MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA. (ALSO, IN INTRODUCTORY PORTION OF COMMUNIQUE, ALGERIANS PRESENTED AMENDMENT CONDEMNING "CERTAIN COLONIAL POWERS THAT HAVE MULTIPLIED THEIR EFFORTS TO INTERVENE IN THE AFRICAN CONTINENT...TO THREATEN STATES OF OUR GROUP WHICH MANIFEST SOLIDARITY" WITH LIBERATION STRUGGLE.)

4. INITIAL EFFORTS BY MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA TO REMOVE SAHARA ISSUE FROM AGENDA WERE REBUFFED BY ALGERIA (WITH COOPERATION OF CUBANS AND OTHERS IN AMBASSADORS/EXPERTS WORKING GROUP) AND ISSUE WAS PASSED TO EDITORIAL (DRAFTING) COMMISSION. NOT BEING MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU, MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA WERE REPRESENTED ON DRAFTING COMMISSION BY ZAIRE. ZAIRE, AT BEHEST OF MOROCCANS, INTRODUCED AMENDMENT CALLING FOR CONDEMNATION OF "ALGERIAN AGGRESSION"

AGAINST MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA--MEMBERS OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT.

5. DRAFTING COMMISSION, HOWEVER, DISREGARDED ZAIRE AMENDMENT AND INSTEAD CHOSE TO COMPROMISE BETWEEN CUBAN DRAFT AND ALGERIAN AMENDMENT. OUTCOME, WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED WITHOUT CHANGE BY MINISTERIAL POLITICAL COMMISSION AND PLENARY, DROPPED ALGERIAN CONDEMNATION OF MOROCCO, MAURITANIA, AND FRANCE BY NAME, BUT ADDED STATEMENT THAT "GROWING PRESENCE OF OLD COLONIAL POWERS IN REGION OBSTRUCTS EFFORTS OF OAU AND UN TO FIND PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO PROBLEM."

NAM BUREAU THEN CALLED FOR END TO THIS PRESENCE. IN ADDITION, GENERAL ALGERIAN CONDEMNATION OF "COLONIAL POWERS" INTERVENTION IN AFRICA (PARA 3 ABOVE) WAS ALSO APPROVED. DRAFTING COMMITTEE ALSO ACCEPTED SUGGESTION THAT COMMUNIQUE CALL FOR EXTRAORDINARY OAU SUMMIT MEETING ON SAHARA. (COMMENT: IDEA, WHICH WE BELIEVE ORIGINATED AT COLOMBO, WAS FAVORED BY SOME COUNTRIES AS PROCEDURAL DEVICE TO AVOID ALGERIAN-MOROCCAN RECRIMINATIONS.)

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6. NET RESULT OF LENGTHY ARGUMENTS (WHICH PITTED MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA BACKED BY CHAD, ZAIRE, INDONESIA, AND ZAIRE AGAINST ALGERIA

BACKED BY ANGOLA, TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA, GUYANA, AND CUBA) IS RESOLUTION THAT:

--CONTAINS CUBAN DRAFT LANGUAGE (PARA 2 ABOVE);

--CONDEMNS FRANCE, AND IMPLICITLY THOSE WHO PARIS IS BACKING, IN EVERYTHING BUT NAME (PARA 3 ABOVE);

--CALLS FOR OAU SUMMIT TO ARRIVE AT A SOLUTION "SATISFACTORY TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES"--A CALL WHICH, BY ACKNOWLEDGING NEED FOR ALGERIAN AND POLISARIO SAY ON SAHARA, ALSO CONSITIUTES BLOW TO RABAT'S POSITION.

7. WHILE MOROCCANS CONFORM THEMSELVES BY POINTING OUT THAT ALGERIANS DID NO ACHIEVE THEIR INTIIAL DESIDERATA, FINAL RESULT UNMISTAKABLY ADVANCE ALGERS' POSITION. MOROCCANS, OF COURSE, WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY AT JULY BELGRADE NAM MINISTERIAL TO PRESS THEIR CASE DIRECTLY AMONG GROUP THAT WILL BE LESS HEAVILY WEIGHTED IN FAVOR OF RADICALS THAN IS COORDINATING BUREAU. (FYI FINAL COMMUNIE OF HAVANA CONFERENCE IS TECHNICALLY LABELED A DRAFT SINCE IT WILL BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER NEGOTIATION AND REFINEMENT AT BELGRADE. END FYI.)

8. FYI. MOROCCANS CLAIM THAT ALGERIANS PROVIDED MINIMUM OF TWENTY-FIVE ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO HALP CUBANS RUN CONFERENCE. MOROCCANS SPECULATE, ON THIS BASIS, THAT ALGERIANS MAY BE HELPING CUBANS FINANCE 1979(NON-IIGNED SUMMIT. END FYI.
GLASSMAN

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